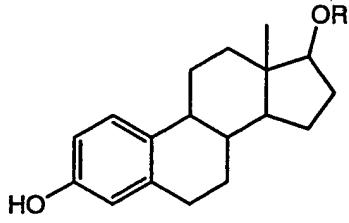


In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 5 as below:

1. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a cytoprotection effective dose of a compound, comprising: a polycyclic compound having the structure below:



wherein the alkyl group R in the alkyl ether group OR includes any of a long chain saturated alkyl, a long chain unsaturated alkyl, or a cycloalkyl group [optionally having a four ring estrogen structure having a first end and a second end wherein a phenol group is located at the first end and a D carbon ring is located at the second end, the D carbon ring having an alkyl ether functional group on carbon 17 thereof, the alkyl portion of which is any of a long chain saturated alkyl, a long chain unsaturated alkyl, or a cycloalkyl group].

2-4. (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1, wherein the alkyl ether functional group is in an orientation selected from the group consisting of an alpha or beta isomeric orientation on the carbon.

6. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1, wherein the alkyl group in the alkyl ether functional group is characterized by the formula of $C_nH_{(2n+1)}$ wherein n is at least 3 and less than 20.

7. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1, comprising: a 17-butoxyestra 1,3,5(10)-triene-3-ol.

8. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1, comprising: a 17-hexyloxyestra-1,3,5(10)-triene-3-ol.

9. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1, comprising: a 17-octyloxyestra-1,3,5(10)-triene-3-ol.

10-11. (cancelled)